COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF UME AND DIRECT ENTRY STUDENTS AT GRADUATION IN SCIENCE EDUCATION SECTION, AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY ZARIA, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The study investigated the academic achievement of students admitted into Science Education Programmes through the University Matriculation Examination [UME] and Direct Entry [NCE] at graduation. The population of the study was the entire students of B.Sc. Ed programmes in Science Education Section comprising 100 - 400 level totally 2841 and the sample was the graduating classes for three consecutive years totally 893 students. Research questions were set, one of which was; is there significant difference in the class of graduation of students admitted through UME and Direct Entry (NCE, Diploma and Remedial)? And one of the Hypotheses stated was that; there is no significant difference in the academic achievement of students admitted through UME and Direct Entry at the graduating point. The data used were final results of second semesters for three years. The Research Design was expo-facto and the statistics used was t-test and chi-square analyses. The findings showed that the Direct Entry students graduated with better CGPA than the UME students which was significantly different. One of the recommendations is that students should attend a pre-degree training before entering the University so as to produce graduates with better results and mature minds to plunge into the future of greatness.

KEYWORDS: Direct Entry [NCE], University Matriculation Examination [UME], Research Design